

1-2013

# DOCTalk January/February 2013 Employee Newsletter

Maine Department of Corrections

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# DOCTalk

JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2013

EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER



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Performance-  
based  
Standards





# DOCTalk

is the employee newsletter for the Maine Department of Corrections (MDOC).

DOCTalk is published 6 times a year: January/February, March/April, May/June, July/August, September/October, and November/December.

## Submission Deadlines

March/April 2013 Issue:

**Tuesday, May 7, 2013**

May/June 2013 Issue:

**Tuesday, July 9, 2013**

July/August 2013 Issue:

**Tuesday, September 10, 2013**

Please send submissions and changes to the contributor list to Cheryl Miller in Central Office at 287-2212; Fax 287-4370 or [Cheryl.Miller@maine.gov](mailto:Cheryl.Miller@maine.gov)

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Our sincere thanks and appreciation to everyone who submitted articles and photos to DOCTalk. Their time and effort contribute significantly in producing a quality publication.

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### Priscilla McLellan

*Mountain View Youth Development Center*

### Amanda Woolford

*Woman's Re-Entry Center*

### Carol Carlow

*Region 1-Adult Community Corrections*

### Donna Davis

*Region 2-Adult Community Corrections*

### Pat Delahanty and Mary Jones

*Region 3 - Adult Community Correction*

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## From the Commissioner



*Commissioner Joseph Ponte*

I would think everyone is looking forward to spring after this record setting winter. The State legislature is back in session and we have already spent a good deal of time in front of them on the FY13 Supplemental Budget. I'm happy to report that we were successful in getting language allowing us to carry surplus monies forward into FY14-15. In prior years, we carried forward debt into the new fiscal year, but with improved management of the State's tax revenue, that has not been the case for the past couple of years for our Department. Beginning March 11, 2013, we will be begin the process of presenting the Department's budget request for FY14-15.

On March 6th we appeared before the Criminal Justice Committee to request support of our bill allowing for the creation of a Youthful Offenders Program at Mountain View Youth Development Center (MVYDC). It was gratifying to know staff developed this proposal in response to finding a way to better utilize existing resources in the juvenile system. The vote was unanimous in support of this bill. This was clearly a vote of confidence in our agency to develop a quality program built on the sound principles of evidence-based practice.

The new Deputy Warden at the Maine State Prison, Robert "Bob" George started on March 6th in his new role. Robert brings many years of correctional experience, having retired from the Delaware Department of Corrections, as a Warden III, in 2008.

I have completed round table meetings in all three regions and feel we had very open and honest discussions about topics that were of concern to staff. The following is a list of some of the topics we discussed:

- Additional support for recreational activities at Long Creek. A possible solution would be to look for volunteers from the community to help fill this need.
- Security and staff safety. Gary LaPlante will look into providing radios to case workers and clinicians at MCC and LCYDC.
- Peer Support Teams—Dr. Joe Fitzpatrick to work on getting these teams established and meeting regularly again.

*Continued next page*

**ON THE FRONT COVER** Our thanks to Barry Stoodley for sharing his photo of Toggenburg kids (baby goats). Share one of your photos and it might appear in a future issue of DOCTalk. (Email your photos to [Cheryl.Miller@maine.gov](mailto:Cheryl.Miller@maine.gov))

## Commissioner continued

- Probation Officer safety during home visits. Adult PPOs to accompany Juvenile PPOs during home visitations. Will need to investigate legal implications further to see if this is a possibility.
- Furlough/Supervised Community Confinement Program (SCCP) Rules—a written copy to be shared with all Regions. Furlough policy may need updating—has not been updated since 1984.
- Check the language around “disability” with regard to the Supervised Community Confinement Program (SCCP). May need updating if there was a change in statute.
- Share and discuss with RCAs how Lisa Nash is currently handling SCCP applications.
- Look at the current policy for consent to search regarding furloughs. Does it need updating?
- OIT looking into getting adult-side staff access to juvenile data in Coris.
- Follow up on overtime practice.
- Discuss with Gary LaPlante the hourly count change.
- Updating and keeping current in Coris an inmate’s religious affiliation/background.
- Judy Plummer-Beale will be looking at all inmate programming from the ground up across the Department.
- Make the Level of Service Inventory (LSI) and Classification Tool part of staff training.

- Need to get staff access to computers in a more timely manner.
- Look at inmate “good time” awards. What practices can be reformed without a change in statute.
- Explore possible capital improvements projects—we have surplus FY12 and FY13 funds available.

The first combined class to go through basic training at the Criminal Justice Academy graduated on March 12th. I believe this change will improve consistency in our program and better prepare our new staff for what you all know, is a difficult and challenging career. Rosalie Moran and Angie Newhouse have done a great job in a very small span of time putting this program together.

Thank you for the good work you do every day and I look forward to seeing and hearing from you as I make rounds or at a future round table discussion.



*The Commissioner congratulates graduate, Nick Bissell (new Juvenile Program Worker/Cook for Long Creek Youth Development Center). Maine's first centralized Basic Corrections Training class graduated on March 12, 2013. Center is Rosalie Moran, Acting Director of Training/Staff Development Specialist. The class photo of new graduates appears on the next page.*



# New Class Graduates



From February 4, 2013 to March 12, 2013 staff (pictured above) participated in New Hire Orientation at the Maine Criminal Justice Academy. If you should see any of the new hires please give them a warm welcome to the Department! They are (left to right kneeling) Christopher Pearl (MSP), Christopher Pickle (MSP), Eric Crabtree (MSP), Wendy Kellman (SMRC), Andy Rios (MSP), Nicholas Bissell (LCYDC), Ken Schuurman (MSP); (left to right standing) Jeff Kendall JR. (MSP), Rodney Robert (MSP), Frank Ford (MSP), Christopher Kelley (MCC); David Hession (MSP), Randy Hall (MSP), Andrew Lehmann (MSP), John Adams (MSP); (left to right back row) Thomas Jent (MSP), William DeGuisto (MSP), John MacPherson (MCC), Raymond Brown (DCF); Joseph Miville (MSP), Timothy Price (MSP); and (not shown) Nicole Chaison (LCYDC).



New DOC hires learning Unarmed Self-Defense in the Gymnasium at Maine Criminal Justice Academy, Vassalboro, ME. Instructor Ryan Dearborn of MVYDC (left photo) and Instructors Dearborn and Chris Scott of LCYDC (right) training new hires on basic self-defense techniques.



# Children's Advocacy Center Interagency Agreement

*Submitted by Tessa Mosher, Director Victim Services*

On February 11th, Maine Department of Corrections Associate Commissioner Jody Breton and Victim Services staff joined the Kennebec/Somerset Children's Advocacy Center (CAC) for a ceremony to mark the signing of the CAC's Interagency Agreement.

The Children's Advocacy Center is a program of the Sexual Assault Crisis and Support Center, serving Kennebec and Somerset Counties and uses evidence-based best practices to provide a safe, neutral, and child-centered place for timely and coordinated evaluation/response of children following an allegation of sexual abuse. Donna Strickler, Executive Director of the Sexual Assault Crisis and Support Center and our newest MDOC advisory board member states "The goal of the CAC is to allow for a streamlined, comprehensive evaluation of a child following the allegation of sexual abuse. Best-practices have shown that a coordinated effort between crisis, law enforcement, child protective workers and the other professionals involved will lead to the minimization of trauma and better case outcomes."

The Maine Department of Corrections is excited to join as an interagency partner and the Director of Victim Services has participated in the Advisory Board for the CAC over the past year. We are pleased to be part of the collaborated effort to work with the sexual assault centers across the State, as well as, the CAC to increase services for sexual assault victims.

Congratulations to the CAC for the one year anniversary and assisting in over 120 forensic interviews.

*Thanks go to the Child Advocacy Center for permission to modify this article for publication in DOCTalk and for the use of the photographs taken at the event.*

*For more information, please visit: <http://silentnomore.org/childrens-advocacy-center/>.*



*(Above) DOC Associate Commissioner Jody Breton signing the CAC's Interagency Agreement.*

*(Below) Members representing Maine DOC, Victim Services, the Children's Advocacy Center, and law enforcement from Kennebec and Somerset counties attend a ceremony to mark the signing of a partnership agreement to coordinate efforts in providing services for victims of sexual assault.*





# Maine Speaks at PbS Conference

The Performance-based Standards Learning Institute, (PbS Li) held its training conference for the PbS State Coordinators in Houston, Texas from January 30 - February 1, 2013. Over 27 states, along with the District of Columbia, were represented by high ranking juvenile correctional administrators. Among the participants was Troy Varney, the Director of Quality Assurance and Professional Practices for the Maine Department of Corrections who also functions as the Maine PbS State Coordinator within the DOC Juvenile Division.

The conference included an experienced motivational speaker in corrections, small work teams that developed PowerPoint presentations on using data and it's analysis toward managing improvements in states, and a panel on behavior management.

As behavior management is a significant challenge in corrections, surveyed PbS state coordinators from all participating states had overwhelmingly indicated their interest in having that topic a focus for the training.

Associate Commissioner Barry Stoodley (at that time) and Long Creek Youth Development Center Superintendent Rod Bouffard were invited to speak as the panel on Behavior Management. The panel was moderated by Dave Crowley, a veteran in corrections and a PbS Coach for Maine along with a number of other states.

Stoodley spoke of the many programs initiated and developed over the years of PbS in both of Maine's juvenile facilities. He spoke of the challenges encountered and overcome in improving the Conditions of Confinement at the facilities. He mentioned that those positive chang-

es are well documented in the data consisting of hundreds of outcome measures and surveys results from both staff and youths over the time period 1998 to the present.

Bouffard discussed how the culture at Long Creek changed and is supported by the data. As the facilities in PbS are scored based on data, Long Creek has attained

the highest levels possible. Long Creek has become a model facility and Maine has achieved the rare distinction of being a Mentor State, which was recently awarded to Maine DOC on March 15th.

Both Stoodley and Bouffard discussed the effectiveness of collaborating and decision making efforts with youth that made a difference. Bouffard explained how the former hearing process for youth incidents has turned into one more of negotiation where youths actively assist in determining their appropriate sanctions. This process, he further explained, provides youths with an opportunity to feel that their discipline is fair and allows for their growth toward becoming law abiding citizens.

Despite earlier staff resistance to the changes, staff members at

both of Maine juvenile correctional facilities have greatly improved their interpersonal and appropriate relationship building job skills. Superintendent Bouffard mentioned an event during which he was emotionally angry with a youth and discussed giving the youth a sanction now uncharacteristic at Long Creek; however his staff made it clear that they shouldn't let emotions get in the way of doing the right thing. Bouffard smiled while telling the story, explaining that he did indeed back off and was so



*Both Long Creek and Mountain View Youth Development Centers have received level 4 (the highest level achievable) from PbS Learning Institute.*



*Continued next page*

## PbS continued

proud of his staff. In essence, he said the culture has truly changed from a punitive model to one that functions in the best interests of youth and their development.

Associate Commissioner Stoodley discussed that the changes in how behavior management was driven by committed staff and based on work of such people such as Dr. Ross Greene author of *The Explosive Child* and the latest research on brain development. Stoodley also mentioned that the state of Maine was in the process of applying these same principles to adult offenders up to the age of 25.



This panel and the training as a whole received excellent to outstanding evaluations from the participants.

Maine has participated in Performance-based Standards for over 12 years. When Performance-based Standards received the Innovations in Government Award from the Ash Institute for Democratic Governance and Innovation at Harvard University, much of the filming for that

was done at the Long Creek Youth Development Center. That film is still shown from time to time on National Public Television and other venues.

Both Mountain View and Long Creek have received national recognition for their work and both have been awarded certificates from Barbara Allen Hagen who ini-

## Performance-based Standards

tiated and guided the work on PbS through generous grants and support from Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP).

At this point, both facilities are operating at the highest levels of performance, which is level 4 in both the Detention and Commitment units, and accordingly have become PbS Mentor Sites.



*Long Creek Youth Development Center was awarded PbS level 4 for 2012. Pictured are Superintendent Rodney Bouffard, Maine PbS Coach David Crowley, and Chris Concannon.*



*Mountain View Youth Development Center was awarded PbS level 4 for 2012. Pictured are Jeff Vance, Maine PbS Coach David Crowley, Tammy Cooper, and Acting Superintendent (at that time) Jeff Morin.*



# Maine DOC Recognized for “Outstanding Performance and Mentoring” in Juvenile Facilities

The Maine Department of Corrections (MDOC) was recognized on March 15th by the Council of Juvenile Correctional Administrators' (CJCA) Performance-based Standards Learning Institute (PbS Li) for “Outstanding Performance and Mentoring” of other states in using Performance-based Standards in its two juvenile facilities.

PbS has over 100 standards by which facilities are evaluated. There are four quality levels. Level 1 is lowest. Level 4 is highest. To achieve Level 4 a facility must meet a minimum 80-percent of identified standards. Maine's two juvenile facilities, Long Creek Youth Development Center and Mountain View Youth Development Center, are both Level 4 in their correctional and detention facilities. This puts the facilities amongst the nation's elite in their work with established PbS national performance standards for juvenile facilities.

CJCA and PbS Li are dedicated exclusively to improving conditions, services and overall operations of juvenile facilities and programs and providing technical assistance and tools to promote public safety, offender accountability and rehabilitation to prevent future crime.

For more information on:

[Council of Juvenile Correctional Administrators' \(CJCA\)](http://cjca.net/)  
<http://cjca.net/>

[Performance-based Standards Learning Institute \(PbS Li\)](http://pbstandards.org/)  
<http://pbstandards.org/>



## ***The Maine PbS Team***

*Front row, left to right: Troy Varney (Director, Division of Quality Assurance and Professional Practices), Jeff Morin (Director of Charleston Correctional Facility), April Potvin (Division of Quality Assurance and Professional Practices). Back row, left to right: Kathryn McGloin (Juvenile Justice Advisory Group), Dr. Joseph Fitzpatrick (Associate Commissioner for the Juvenile Division),*

*Bartlett Stoooley (former Associate Commissioner for the Juvenile Division), Dave Crowley (PbS Coach), Chris Concannon (Long Creek Youth Development Center), Jeff Merrill II (Deputy Superintendent Long Creek Youth Development Center), Cheryl Preble (Mountain View Youth Development Center), and Jeffrey Vance (Mountain View Youth Development Center).*

# Long Creek Youth Development Center Receives PbS Award For “Continuous Outstanding Performance”

By Chris Concannon, PbS Site Coordinator

Recently Long Creek Youth Development Center (LCYDC) was recently acknowledged for our efforts in consistently scoring a Performance-based Standards (PbS) Level 4 dating back to October 2009. Dave Crowley, our PbS Coach, presented LCYDC with a certificate of “Continuous Outstanding Performance.” The score of Level 4 is only obtained by a small percentage of the facilities participating in PbS throughout the nation.

The “bar” is constantly being raised and LCYDC is continually meeting or surpassing it. Line staff, Medical staff, Education staff, Contract staff, Administration and all other support staff are all working together with the common goal to provide an environment which gives the residents at Long Creek a chance to succeed. The hard work and effort of all staff, applied daily, clearly shows through the surveys and results we receive during the months

of April and October. Because of our previous results, PbS considers LCYDC a “mentoring facility” and our practices are being shared with other facilities. Congratulations to everyone who is a part of Long Creek Youth Development Center and this great achievement.

*PbS Coach David Crowley and Long Creek Youth Development Center Superintendent Rodney Bouffard. Long Creek achieved PbS Level 4 for 2012.*



## Education within Corrections: A Study Pertinent to Cumberland County

By Susan Dyer Taylor, LCYDC Teacher

*The following is a summary of research findings on the educational needs of incarcerated populations. The original a Master's research thesis, was adopted and published by [ERIC \(Education Resources Information Center\)](http://eric.ed.gov/?id=ED406770) in 1997. The article has also been adopted by the National Library of Australia's online catalogue for inclusion in their resources: <http://catalogue.nla.gov.au/Record/5606770>*

A study investigated the educational levels of 196 inmates (85 percent male, most Caucasian, 5 ethnic groups represented) of the Cumberland County Jail (CCJ) in Portland, Maine, using

a self-perception instrument and the results of the Tests of Applied Literacy Skills. Information was obtained regarding gender, age, recidivism, highest level of educational attainment, special education services received and perceived, and intent to pursue a General Educational Development (GED) diploma. In addition, information about how this population performed in a test was compared to that of the national prison population reported in the National Adult Literacy Survey (NALS). The results demonstrate that, although CCJ inmates usually rated their abilities as high and they performed as well as

or better than national levels for incarcerated populations, they did not demonstrate proficiency levels that would enable them to achieve greater social or economic success. More than one-fourth of the sample reported known learning disabilities or difficulties. Although nearly one-third indicated that they would like to pursue a GED, most of those inmates said they would need tutorial or remedial services first. (The study report contains 15 references, the survey instrument, 3 tables and 8 figures illustrating survey results, and two figures providing information on the NALS.)



# Division of Quality Assurance & Professional Practices

## DOC's Paperless Contracting Procedure

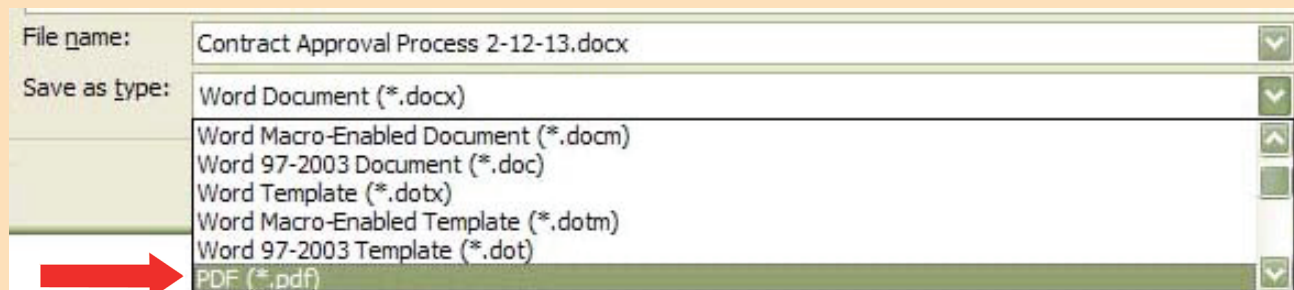
By Troy Varney, Director

Effective immediately is the Department's new paperless contracting procedure which includes several new components. The objective is twofold: 1) to establish a standardized approval process for every contract in the Department, regardless of its origin; and 2) to create a more efficient method that will save time for personnel who have responsibilities in the development of new contracts, including the Division of Purchases (DOP). Why DOP? It's pretty simple: the easier it is for DOP to process our contracts the quicker turnaround time for us in getting our officially approved contracts back.

Since we want our contracts to be as clean, self-explanatory, and thorough as possible and, let's call it what it is, because we are a bureaucracy there are several steps our contracts need to go through before we have a final product. To give you a better sense of the established process I have provided the checklist (below) created to assist everyone responsible for processing contracts through the paperless system. (Please note: Item #1 on checklist is referencing further instructions [not shown] for the contract administrators.)

### Checklist

1. \_\_\_ All Contract Approval Process questions (previous page) reviewed and followed.
2. \_\_\_ Necessary contract negotiations completed with vendor.
3. \_\_\_ Drafts of contract completed (using Rider A template and current DOP template).
4. \_\_\_ Supplemental forms completed (e.g. BP37SS, BP37CA, Executive Order Compliance).
5. \_\_\_ Contract draft sent electronically to Central Office for review: Division of Quality Assurance & Professional Practices ([Corrections.QA@Maine.gov](mailto:Corrections.QA@Maine.gov)), Mark McCarthy ([Mark.S.McCarthy@maine.gov](mailto:Mark.S.McCarthy@maine.gov)) and Jody Breton ([Jody.L.Breton@maine.gov](mailto:Jody.L.Breton@maine.gov)).
6. \_\_\_ If necessary, make revisions based on Central Office feedback and return for final review.
7. \_\_\_ Contract coded (Facilities code their contracts and Mark McCarthy codes all other contracts).
8. \_\_\_ Contract "Save As" select "PDF" setting, then forward by email to vendor for signature.



Continued next page

## Paperless Contracting continued

9. \_\_\_ Instruct vendor to print and sign contract, then scan (high resolution, if available) email back to contract administrator.
10. \_\_\_ Contract Administrator prints contract and supplemental documentation; forwards to necessary DOC personnel for signature.
11. \_\_\_ All signed, completed contracts and supporting documentation (e.g. BP37SS) scanned and emailed to Finance ([Mitchell.Boynton@maine.gov](mailto:Mitchell.Boynton@maine.gov)) for processing (Finance to email to DOP: [Contracts.Purchases@maine.gov](mailto:Contracts.Purchases@maine.gov))
12. \_\_\_ Contract Administrator should save an electronic version for their files. Approved contracts from DOP scanned directly to QA. (Note: QA will upload contract to CorrNet and forward electronically to Operation's Manager, Finance and Contract Administrator.)
13. \_\_\_ Contract Administrator to forward final electronic copy to vendor.

## Correctional Industries Program Business Opportunities

*By Bob Walden, Industries Director*

The Prison Industries Program has recently agreed to refurbish another 75 pieces of furniture for Bates College. The work will be done throughout the upcoming summer months and comes on the heels of having completed 50 furniture pieces for the campus in 2012. Ongoing work opportunities for repeat customers is a strong sign of customer satisfaction and we hope to use this work as an example to share with other state colleges of what our programs can offer, as well as, the replacement cost savings we can provide state institutions and agencies.

The Prison Industries Program was contacted by the Northeast Correctional Center in Bowling Green, Missouri and asked to assist in their start-up of a crafts and novelties woodworking program. They learned of our established program by way of the Prison Showroom website and we were pleased to be able to provide some basic operational information along with several prototypes and product building plans to help them get underway.

A visit and tour of the Prison Industries Program with owners of the wicker furniture manufacturing company

Curtis Design Ltd. went extremely well. Currently their furniture is being manufactured in California but a strong desire to also establish a Maine division and a program partnership with the prison program appears very promising on both sides. We are in the planning stage of establishing a means for the long-term training that will be required to get a new program offering such as this underway. Such a partnership would be an expansion of our existing federally certified Prison Industry Enhancement Certification Program.

After meeting with Loyal Biscuit Co. owners, Joel and Heidi Neal, the Charleston Correctional Facility Industries Program agreed to start up a small pet toy production expansion to their program offerings. The Loyal Biscuit Company currently own and operate three mid-coast retail stores and will be providing hands-on toy production training to get this interesting venture underway. It will be exciting to see where this opportunity will lead and if successful could be another extension to our Prison Industry Enhancement Certification Program (PIECP) offerings.



## Charleston Designated as Pilot Site for PbS

CCF Director Morin has designated Charleston Correctional Facility (CCF) as pilot site for [Performance-based Standards \(PbS\)](#). We will be the first adult facility

in the country to begin using PbS to guide our work. Maine's juvenile facilities have been doing this for over 10 years, having achieved the highest level (level 4) possible and

have been recognized as two of the top facilities in the country. We will start with the existing system and eventually begin adaptations to set standards for adult facilities.



## Charleston Correctional Facility Update

By Dyana White

We are finally in the home stretch of winter, watching the trees turn green will be nice to see from on top of our little hill at Charleston Correctional Facility (CCF). In the meantime, we've been keeping busy.

### Dog Toys

In January, Industries partnered with the Loyal Biscuit



Company

in Rockland to make Tug Toys for them. They are a pet supply company in the mid-coast area committed to providing natural healthy dog



*Braiding fleece into dog tug toys at CCF for the Loyal Biscuit Company.*

and cat supplies. We have three prisoners working full time to braid the Tug Toys from fleece provided by the company. The men have been working hard to create a good product and the Loyal Biscuit Company has been

working hard to ensure they have plenty of work to do. So far it has been a good fit for both of us and we hope to



continue working together for a long time. Information on what we are making for them can be seen at <http://www.loyalbiscuit.com/tug-metoy>.

### Training Baker

Speaking of dogs, we have a new member of the CCF family, Baker. He is a Lab/Collie mix



*CCF new family member, Baker.*

and has been keeping the residents in Dorm 3 busy training, walking and otherwise entertaining him, which is no easy task when you're dealing with a puppy and winter.

*Continued next page*

## Charleston continued

### Career Fair

A career fair was held at Mountain View Youth Development Center and many CCF prisoners attended and received valuable information on work and education opportunities available to them once they are released. Two of the participants were interviewed by Channel 5 and the *Bangor Daily News* (see article below.)



*CCF inmates attend a career fair held at Mountain View Youth Development Center.*

### ACA 2013 Winter Conference

Last month Tom Sands attend the American Correctional Association (ACA) 2013 Winter Conference in Houston, Texas.. Tom reports that it was a nice event and was good to see the facility representatives from around the U.S. going through the ACA accreditation process. Tom also mentioned that some of the participants were Corrections Officers that are still in training; ACA is being incorporated right from the start. Other conference attendees were from Mexico, learning about the process and it can help their Corrections Department, thought that was interesting and wish them the best of luck.

### Work Crews

CCF work crews kept busy all winter on a variety of projects in the local communities. Most recently, Ken Kimball and his crew worked on the renovation of the old Garland Elementary School making it the new Town Center. The grand opening was celebrated on March 2nd. Work is also starting on the apple orchard getting it ready for the coming growing season. It's a good sign, it means spring is near and winter will soon be behind us.

## Inmates Mingle with College Reps and Employers at Job Fair

*By Alex Barber, BDN Staff*

*The following article appeared in the Bangor Daily News on February 12, 2013.*

CHARLESTON, Maine — About 70 juveniles and adults who aren't able to seek out education and career opportunities while behind bars had those opportunities come to them on Tuesday.

Eleven vendors from colleges, employers and ca-

reer centers filled the gymnasium at the Mountain View Youth Development Center on Tuesday morning. About 45 juveniles from the center toured the vendors to ask questions and view prospects for life outside of the center. About 25 adults from the Charleston Correctional Facility, which sits adjacent to the youth center, did the same later in the morning.

"It's designed to allow these guys that we house here at our correctional complex to do normal stuff that normal guys get to do," said Pat Gillis, program director for Jobs for Maine's Graduates, a statewide nonprofit organization which sponsored the event. "The whole idea is about getting them back into the communities with the tools they need to be productive."

Gillis said this event is a first for Maine corrections facilities.

*This article continues at:*  
<http://bangordailynews.com/2013/02/12/news/penobscot/inmates-mingle-with-college-reps-and-employers-at-job-fair/?ref=search>.



## Investigation and Collaboration Lead to Drug Seizure

Corrections Investigator David Wilson (Mountain View and Charleston) recently completed a trafficking investigation that resulted in nearly \$5,000 of suboxone being seized, as well as, criminal charges for those conspiring to traffick inside the Prison system. Information received indicated the U.S. mail was being used to move the drug. United States Postal Inspector Jeffrey Taylor and Corrections K-9 Handler Kyle Sylvester and his K-9 Gunner (Maine State Prison) and Handler Joseph Salisbury and his K-9 Tyson (Maine Correctional Center) were instrumental in the seizure. The prescription drug suboxone is a narcotic category drug that is primarily utilized as treatment for opiate dependence.

According to Wilson, the prescription drug Suboxone, which is in the narcotic category of drugs and used primarily as a treatment for opiate dependency, is prescribed in a sublingual film, commonly referred to as a 'strip' and has a value in prison of \$100.00 per strip. With the assistance of U.S. Postal Investigator Jeffrey Taylor, the Department of Corrections have seized an amount of Suboxone in two separate packages sent through the U.S. mail system that were targeted for the Maine State Prison in Warren. Following the seizure of the packages the Department of Corrections utilized their K-9 team to detect the presence of drugs within the packages.



*Pictured from left to right: K-9 Gunner, Handler Kyle Sylvester, Director Gary LaPlante, Investigator David Wilson, Inspector Jeffrey Taylor, Handler Joseph Salisbury and K-9 Tyson.*

## ACA Winter 2013 Conference

By Vicki Sheehan, CO MSP

I had the honor of attending the American Correctional Association (ACA) 2013 Winter Conference in Houston, Texas. Below are a few highlights:

I attended four workshops:

- [Principles and Applications for Life \(PAL\)](#)—a faith-based residential program that works. This program was

great because in the almost 15 years of implementing it, the results lowered recidivism of the prisoners who completed it. Briefly, the program involves placing prisoners together in one housing area for a period of three to twelve months where they work together and address real life issues such as work, spiritual, family, health, etc.

*Continued next page*

## ACA continued

- Understanding Vicarious Traumatization—this workshop explained what vicarious traumatization (empathetic engagement with traumatic experiences) is and how it can affect both prisoners and staff as they deal with trauma.
- Stuck in a Rut—the speaker, Dr. Evan Crist, talked about brain research. He offered some explanations of why people repeatedly make the same mistakes, as well as, suggestions to help get people out of their rut.
- Inside the Mind of a Gang Leader—speaker Andre Norman shared some of his experiences in while he was in prison. The audience asked lots of questions and Mr. Norman answered every one. It was interesting to hear about his experience and how he successfully turned his life around. Mr. Norman stressed how important it is for staff to care about prisoners and for management to care about staff.

There were many vendors with booths at the exhibit section of the conference. Three stood out for me: Laundry Loops (which eliminates the need of laundry bags), cell

phone detection devices, electronic mail for family and friends of prisoners to use instead of the U.S. mail.



It was a great experience and I appreciated the opportunity to learn about how other facilities handle similar situations that occur at Maine State Prison.

*This January, Officer Sheehan was one of MDOC staff members who attended the ACA 2013 Winter Conference in Houston, Texas. Also attending and representing Maine State Prison and Bolduc Correctional Facility, were W. Atkinson, M. Rackliffe, Sherri Black, Victoria Sheehan, Ben Beal, and Mae Worcester. They attended various workshops, as well as, the accreditation hearing for each facility. At a formal luncheon the hearing commissioners praised both MSP & BCF for achieving a perfect score of 100% and were presented with certificates.*

## Jeff Vance Member of CIT



*In the last issue of DOCTalk, we ran this photo of the recently graduated Crisis Intervention Team (CIT). Jeffrey Vance, Juvenile Program Manager with Mountain View Youth Development Center, was inadvertently left off the list of graduates. Jeff is pictured on the far left, back in this photo. Our sincere apologies Jeff and congratulations.*



## Meet MSP Staff Members Kurt and Steve

As a means of familiarizing *DOCTalk* readers with the Medium Unit at Maine State Prison (MSP), we would like to introduce two of our own Correctional Care and Treatment Workers, Kurt Dyer Jr. and Steve Wigdzinski.

Kurt Dyer Jr. started his career at MSP in 2002 as a Corrections Officer/Cook. He transitioned to his present job as a Correctional Care and Treatment Worker (CCTW) in 2010. In the Medium Unit he facilitates prisoner programs *Thinking for a Change* and *Mindful Meditation*. In addition to his normal CCTW duties, Kurt also does in service employee training and is the Emergency Observation Status Assistant. He has three years correctional experience at the Oklahoma Department of Corrections and is a published author.

Steve Wigdzinski started his career at MSP in 2003 as a Corrections Officer. He was a part of the CERT Team and Honor Guard; and had transitioned to a Correctional Sergeant. Presently Steve works as a Correctional Care and Treatment Worker (CCTW) and is on the MSP Fire Department. Along with Kurt, Steve facilitates the *Thinking for a Change* group.

Both Kurt and Steve contribute to the smooth running of Medium Unit at MSP and we appreciate all they do.



*MSP Correctional Care and Treatment Workers, Kurt Dyer Jr. (left) and Steve Wigdzinski.*

## Staff Updates at Maine Correctional Center

### Welcome Aboard

David Verrier as Correctional Investigator. David has 26 years of experience in law enforcement. He first worked for the Old Orchard Beach Police Department and most recently as Chief of the Paris Police Department. He brings with him a vast background of knowledge and investigative experience with him to MCC.

Christopher Kelley comes on board as a Correctional Officer and Cook in the Food Service Department. Chris is a graduate of the University of New England and brings

three years of cooking experience to MCC.

John MacPherson is our newest Correctional Maintenance Mechanic. John brings with him a vast amount of experience in fixing, repairing or rebuilding—well you name it and he has probably worked on it, in some building, somewhere. In an older facility, his experience in multiple areas of repair is a welcome addition.

Congratulations to Laura Smart on her promotion to Office Associate II. Laura has been working in our Classification Department for the past two years as an Office As-

sistant II. She will be moving from the Classification Dept to the Unit Management with Penny Bailey.

### Thank You for Your Service

Doriann Robinson and Debra Peters have left the Correctional Officer ranks. Doriann served as our Visits Officer, processing visit cards, scheduling appointments and doing a great job in dealing with prisoners' families trying to visit. Debra worked on the line in numerous housing areas and support posts – always a tough job! We wish both the best in future endeavors.

# Staff Updates at Downeast Correctional Facility

*By Debbie Day*

Downeast Correctional Facility (DCF) has undergone a series of significant changes these past two months—all of it positive. Four of our long-time employees have retired and are looking forward to traveling and just doing what they want to do! We sincerely wish them the very best! Several longtime correctional officers have moved into different positions within the facility which allows for night shift officers the opportunity to move to the day shift. Again, we wish everyone great success in their new positions.

## New Hires/Promotions

Jeremy Mason was selected for one of the new Correctional Trades Instructor positions. Jeremy has served as a correctional officer for more than 16 years.

John Reynolds was selected for one of the new Correctional Trades In-

structor positions. John has served as a correctional officer for more than 18 years.

Maintenance Mechanic Supervisor William Beverly was promoted to Correctional Maintenance Mechanic Supervisor on February 24, 2013 after more than 16 years as a correctional officer. Bill will be able to utilize his extensive security experience in his new role.

Larry Bosse was promoted to Trade Shop Supervisor for the Garments Industry. Larry was hired originally to work in our storeroom in March 2012 and promoted to Garments this January.

Raymond Brown was hired as Inventory/Property Specialist for the Storeroom on January 7, 2013. Raymond previously worked at DCF as a correctional officer.

## Retirements

Bruce Colbeth retired at the end of January after more than 24 years of state service as a Correctional Officer.

Jay Maker retired at the end of February after more than 27 years of state service as a Correctional Officer. Jay was one of the original employees hired when DCF opening back in May of 1985.

Werden Grover retired at the end of February after more than 27 years of state service as a Correctional Officer.

Patricia Mullen retired at the end of February after more than 17 years of state service as the Classification Officer.

## Region 2 • Adult Community Corrections

*By Donna Davis*

Four Probation Officer Assistants have been promoted to Probation Officers in Region 2. They are: Natasha Nadeau, Skowhegan Office; Chris Dumas, Wiscasset Office; Michelle Dubay, Lewiston Office and Jason Taylor, Skowhegan Office.

Three new Probation Officers have been hired as well. They are: John Grasso (Wiscasset office), Ashley

Gaboury (Augusta office), and Rebecca Bunyea (Lewiston office).

Christie Green was hired as the part-time Office Associate II in the Lewiston Office.

Welcome and congratulations!



## Region 3 • Adult Community Corrections

*By Patrick Delahanty*

Probation Officer Bob Cartier has assumed responsibility as the contact person for the [Maine Fusion Center](#). Region 3 staff will forward cases of concern or information sharing/gathering to the Fusion Center for state-wide sharing.

Caseworkers from Maine State Prison (MSP), as well as, other institutions spent a day in the field with Probation Officers. This opportunity was afforded in conjunction with Charlie Charlton of MSP and Community Officers. Though feedback of the experience has

not yet been reviewed, the opportunity offered insight and greater understanding for participants.

Case load transfers are occurring at a fast and furious pace. Probation Officer Assistants (POA) are entering the fray with positive attitudes and Field Probation Officers appreciate having their case load numbers reduced. Much preparation work occur before this new format was finalized and the efforts and energies of involved staff are recognized and greatly appreciated.

## WorkReady Comes to Mountain View Youth Development Center

WorkReady is a 60-hour soft skills based training program of Maine's four Local Workforce Investment Boards and the Maine Department of Education's Office of Adult Education that was created with the needs of employers in mind. The goal is to provide participants who complete the program with the skills employers are looking for in employees.

Recognizing that having employment skills is essential when inmates reintegrate back into their home communities, Mountain View Youth Development Center (MVYDC) recently sought approval from the Tri-County Workforce Investment Board and the WorkReady Steer-

ing Committee to become a training site for the program. Approval was granted on February 19, 2013.

As an approved WorkReady training site, MVYDC will be able to offer the standards based employment skills curriculum to its youth and adult inmates. One instructor from MVYDC

has attended the required facilitator training and will be ready to get the program off the ground when needed. Other facilitators may eventually be approved to run programs as well. For more information: [www.workreadyforme.org](http://www.workreadyforme.org)



## Board Game Day

January 19th was Board Game Day at Mountain View Youth Development Center. Residents enjoyed each other's company while playing a variety of games. We had a great turnout and it was a fun time for everyone who participated.



# Jobs for Maine's Graduates Helps Mountain View Youth Prepare for the Future

## College & Career Fair to Become Annual Event at MVYDC

By Pat Gillis, JMG Program Manager

No one disputes the fact that incarcerated youth and adults need preparation for employment and/or further education before they reenter society. With this realization in mind, Mountain View Youth Development Center (MVYDC) recently made it easier for inmates to gather and pursue information about jobs, training, and post-

secondary educational opportunities. On February 12th, fourteen organizations participated in the first ever College and Career Fair sponsored by Job's for Maine's Graduates (JMG) at Mountain View. Despite hazardous driving conditions in one of Maine's many snow events of this winter, organizations from across the state came together in

the gymnasium at MVYDC to offer youth and adult inmates essential information that just might change their lives as they prepare for a future once they are back in their community. Approximately 50 residents and inmates from the Youth Center and Charleston Correctional Facility attended. By most accounts, the event was a huge success and plans

are underway to make the College and Career Fair an annual event at Mountain View.

*Residents attend Job and Career Fair held at Mountain View Youth Development Center. Among the vendors participating were the University of Maine at Augusta (top), the Northern Maine Community College (center) and the Maine Career Center (bottom).*



## Mountain View Youth Development Center Employees Become Certified NCCER Trainers

Mountain View Youth Development Instructors, Scott DeMoranville (Building Trades), John Simmons (Small Engine Repair), and Pat Gillis (JMG Job Readiness Program) attended and successfully completed the National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER) instructor training course offered by Associated Builders and Contractors, Inc. in Augusta in February. These instructor certifications will allow MVYDC to provide training in specific craft skills (the NCCER Core Curriculum, Carpentry, and Equipment Operation) and

offer national certifications to current and future inmates at MVYDC and CCF. Inmates who successfully complete required classroom training and practical examinations will be awarded a national certification recognized throughout Maine and the United States. Getting instructors certified to teach the NCCER curriculum is the first step toward becoming an Accredited Training Site for our Mountain View facility. For more information about NCCER, follow this link: [www.nccer.org](http://www.nccer.org).



# History and Small Engines Class Restoration at Mountain View

*By John Simmons, VTI*

Mountain View Youth Development Center's Small Engines Class, under the direction of Vocational Trades Instructor (VTI) John Simmons, traditionally repairs and restores a variety of machines including tractors, chain saws, lawn mowers, snowmobiles, and more. John and his students are also engaged in community service projects where students take a rusty pile of parts and make them shine again—so the old operates like new. One such restoration project rehabilitated a 1967 SkiDoo Olympic Model 300 snowmobile, which became a notable machine as part of Walter Pederson's participation in the Plaisted North Polar Expedition in 1967.

Though Pederson and his SkiDoo stopped within one hundred miles of their objective, two students who volunteered to take on the project never quit. When a retired school teacher from a local public school asked John to restore a piece of American history, John accepted the challenge for his students because his motive was to see the now eighty-three year old Pederson ride one of his own antique machines. When the students took delivery of the rust-covered pile of parts and inventoried the pieces, they realized that with the exception of the seat and some nuts and bolts all the working parts were original. The serial numbers on this machine matched the original numbers. This machine was authentic; it had carried Pederson within 100 miles of the North Pole in 1967.

It took two students more than two months to restore the snowmobile. The students carefully removed decades of rust with steel wool and a wire brush until every original part, every nut, bolt, and every washer was rescued. The students' dedication to returning Pederson's machine polished and ready to ride again went beyond the normal class time. One student, who could only use one hand due to a previous injury, worked every day from the first day to the last day to complete the project. He even polished the handlebars and the engine with one hand. The students and their instructor are very proud of their history-making final product.

The shiny yellow SkiDoo Olympic Model 300 was totally restored, and this piece of American history from the 1967 Plaisted North Polar Expedition will be returned to Walter Pederson. John is looking forward to seeing Walter ride his own machine this winter. The public will also be able to view this special machine at the Paul Bunyan Antique Snowmobile Ride in January 2013.



*Before: Walter Pederson's Olympic Model 300 SkiDoo snowmobile used in the Plaisted North Polar Expedition in 1967 as parts and pieces*



*After: The restored SkiDoo shines like new.*



# It's Hats On at Mountain View

*Submitted by Marsha Higgins, Volunteer Coordinator, MVYDC*



*(Top left and above.) Marsha Higgins, Volunteer Services Coordinator at Mountain View Youth Development Center, taught residents how to crochet hats and dishcloths using crochet hooks and looms, Marsha has recently started teaching inmates at Charleston Correctional Facility this skill as well.*



*D Unit residents at Mountain View Youth Development Center sporting hats while crocheting.*



*With the help of residents and staff, the MVYCD Volunteer Department already has 112 hats completed just since the beginning of the year. These hats will be donated wherever there is a need. Our goal is to complete 500 hats in 2013.*



*National Hat Day was observed on January 15th by both residents and staff at Mountain View. Above: D Unit residents wear hats while waiting on the chow line. Left: Hat wearing Nurses Ellen and DeeDee.*



# Mountain View Staff Updates and Promotions

On January 9th, Superintendent Larry Austin announced the selection of Dr. Agnieszka (Asia) Serwik, PhD, as Deputy Superintendent for Mental Health Services for Mountain View Youth Development Center. Dr. Serwik has worked with at-risk youth in clinical and research capacities for the last 13 years. In 2010, she received her Ph.D. in Developmental-Clinical Psychology from the University of Maine. Dr. Serwik has worked as a staff psychologist at MVYDC for the past two years, but also completed part of her practicum training at the facility in 2006. Additionally, she worked with Community Corrections completing forensic evaluations of youth on probation and providing court mandated juvenile sexual behavior treatment. From 2009-2011, Dr. Serwik was a consultant to the Youth Development Centers as part of the OJJDP Juvenile Sex Offender Treatment Program Development and Capacity Building Grant awarded to MDOC. She is eager to take on this new role, particu-

larly as MVYDC embarks on the exciting new challenge of developing a Young Adult Offender Program.

On February 14th, Superintendent Larry Austin announced the promotion of Tammy Cooper, Juvenile Program Manager, to the position of Director of Classification.

We also congratulate Jeffrey Vance, JFOS on Third Shift to his new position of Acting Capacity Juvenile Program Manager for C Unit; and Chad W. Cooper, JPS, to Acting Capacity Juvenile Facility Operations Supervisor!

Great job everyone!

## Congratulations Ron Valli

Juvenile Program Worker Ron Valli from MVYDC set two state records during the month of February in the World Association of Benchers and Deadlifters Competition. Ron competed in the 181 lb. class and succeeded on bench-pressing 347 lbs. Congratulations Ron!



*JPW Valli started a workout/weight lifting program with a few of the Mountain View residents. We look forward to watching this program grow.*



## Having Fun and Saying Goodbye to Denise Molinaro

We had a small party to say goodbye, as well as, to congratulate Denise Molinaro. Denise served as Office Associate II for prior Deputy Superintendent Larry Austin and recently for Boyd Kronholm. She continually provided support services for many different projects at Mountain View and was well known, and sought after for her computer expertise. On January 7th, Denise began her new job with the Maine Emergency Management Agency in Bangor. We all wish her the very best, and hope to still see her often.



# World Class Kids Shine at Long Creek!

By Lisa Wojcik, Librarian

Librarian Lisa Wojcik coordinated a cross curriculum program this winter for the A.R. Gould School students. The “World Class Kids” project goal was to expand the understanding and appreciation of cultural diversity and human resilience, while acknowledging and celebrating how all residents incarcerated at the Long Creek Youth Development Center are overcoming adversity.

The English, Social Studies, and Special Education departments worked together to provide a great learning experience. Here are the highlights:

- Students read and had English lessons from their personal copy of the book, *A Long Walk to Water*, by Linda Sue Park.
- The Social Studies department provided lessons on the adversarial conditions in Africa.
- Lado Ladoka, cultural diversity expert, provided all students a series of lectures.
- Students received notebooks to document thoughts and reflections.
- Everyone involved created their own star art, which is a personal expression of what is important to them.
- A celebration including a curriculum based game of jeopardy!



Librarian Lisa Wojcik and Acting Superintendent Jeff Merrill in the midst of creating the star mural in the visiting room. A Community Outreach Grant from the Maine Humanities Council made this project possible.



# We're Looking Forward to Spring at Long Creek

*By Kim LCYDC Deering-Recreation/Athletic Director*

We are looking forward to spring in more ways than one. This winter seemed extra-long and we are hoping to get outside soon and start our spring programs. Our Ultimate Team will be participating in the Maine High School Ultimate league again this year. This will be the third year Long Creek Youth Development Center will be involved. Becky Yarbrough from Opportunity Alliance will be coaching the team, which plays games Wednesday nights at the Cumberland Fair Grounds. This will be Becky's second year as coach. She is very enthusiastic and is looking forward to teaching the kids how to play this sport, which is growing rapidly in popularity with high school students in Maine.

We will be having an Outdoor Track Team starting at the end of March for any eligible students. Long Creek's David Grant will be the head coach this season. This will be David's second year as coach. Our first track season in 2011, David and then assistant coach JPW Justin Madore lead the team to qualify and participate in the State Track Meet. In addition to the Track Team, the Up & Running Program will be available for Long Creek residents who are not eligible for the track team. This group will focused on long distance running and preparing for the many races in the community which include the *Beach to Beacon* and the *Maine Marathon Team Relay and Half Marathon*. We look forward to seeing these individual athletes set personal goals and work hard to achieve them. These programs are perfect because they let kids know there are positive, healthy activities they can do by

themselves. They do not have to depend on others to participate or to be successful. They will learn and *feel* the mental and physical benefits and know that they have the power within themselves to chip away at their own personal goals, achieve them and set new ones. Lots of lessons learned!

Starting in late April, we will have a Boot Camp program for youth who want to participate. JPS Augustine Hartman will be the instructor. He was in the Army and still works with them during training drills. The program will include cardio and strength physical fitness activities, as well as memory exercises, formations, team building and flag folding. A pilot program took place last fall in which 19 students participated and enjoyed it. We look forward to expanding on this program this spring.

Basketball still seems to be the hottest sport at Long Creek. The Maine Red Claws coaching staff and a couple of players will be coming to have a clinic/Q&A session in mid-March. This will give the students a chance to learn skills and what it takes to become a professional in doing something they love—on and off the court.

The kids continue to look forward to the weekly basketball games, with our volunteers from RKO Accounting, this spring. As soon as the weather warms up and the fields are clear, these games will transform into softball games. This group has been coming in for three years now and it is greatly appreciated by the kids.

## A.R. Gould Bears 2012-13 Season

*By Kim Deering, LCY-DC Recreation/Athletic Director*

The A.R. Gould Bears basketball team finished their 2012-2013 season with 12 wins and 8 losses. The Bears were seeded #4 going into the post season playoffs. They took on the North Haven Hawks in the quarter finals, winning with a score of 64 to 49. The Bears played Forest Hills in the semi-finals but due to getting into early foul trouble and many of our good shots not falling in the hoop, the Bears lost to the Tigers, 78 to 50. The team played well and displayed exemplary sportsmanship throughout the tournament. We are very proud of the team!

I would like to thank the coaches Juvenile Program Worker (JPW) Chad Sturgis and Juvenile Program

*Continued next page*

## Bears continued

Specialist (JPS) Aaron Beaulieu for doing an excellent job helping this new team gel and learn the skills needed for a successful season. It is very impressive to see how



that can be transferred to their everyday life. Both coaches have the talent to coach any team in the state if they wanted to or even at a higher level. Their knowl-

edge is vast and style is perfect for the kids at Long Creek.

these two guys work at practices and games. The players certainly learned many valuable lessons

edge is vast and style is perfect for the kids at Long Creek.

The season would not have happened successfully if we didn't have the many staff and volunteers at Long Creek who helped with all that is necessary to host home games, travel, and make preparations for the tournament. Several people were willing to make adjustments in their own schedules to support the team in its endeavors and contributed in different ways. I am grateful for all the people coming together to make it all happen. Great Teamwork!

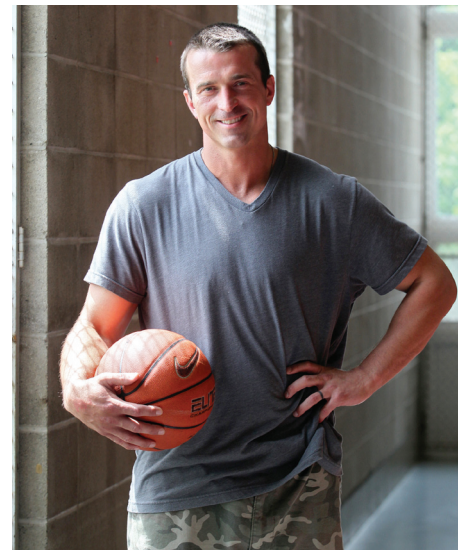
## Good Advice: Be a Pro at Being Yourself First

By Kim Deering, LCYDC Recreation/Athletic Director

Chris Herren, former Boston Celtic basketball player, spoke at the University of New England (UNE) about his 14-year struggle with drugs, starting at age 18, and how he overcame his addiction.

I had the pleasure of taking five students along with JPM Jeff Bachelder and Day One's Patty Vyr to Herren's inspirational speech. Chris told a scary story of the powerful hold drugs can have, even after trying them for the first time. He explained how it was his dream to be the starting point guard for the Boston Celtics, however, nothing seemed more important on that day of opportunity than getting his next fix. He waited a lifetime to hear his name being announced at the Boston Garden as a starting player. He was warming up when he found out that his drug dealer was stuck in traffic. He missed his one opportunity to hear his name when it was an-

nounced because—with eight minutes before the game—he was in the street looking for his dealer in his warm-up suit, as all the fans were heading into the building to see him play. He got his drugs and was back in the building two minutes before game time. Chris talked about how he destroyed his professional career, his marriage, and hurt his three kids during this time. He talked about the two times he died and was found with a needle in his arm, only later to be revived by paramedics. He explained that he had *no* control even when he wanted to stop. He even thought suicide was the answer, so he wouldn't have to continue to live like that. It wasn't until he entered a six-month drug treatment center that he became clean. The turning point came when he was resisting treatment and the Director of the facility told him to call his wife and tell her to explain to their children that their Daddy was in an accident and



*Chris Herren, former Boston Celtic basketball player.*

is dead and they will never see him again. From this point on, Chris has been clean. Chris' advice for everyone is: "Be a pro at being yourself first." That should be your dream.

One of our kids spoke up at this event in front of hundreds of people

*Continued next page*



## Good Advice continued

and said, "I'm 18 and I have been clean for 18 months. I was supposed to be at work tonight but there was a reason for me being here tonight." What he was saying was that he was meant to hear this speech and it really inspired him. Thank you to the UNE staff who offered this opportunity for their students and people in the community.

Learn more about [The Herren Project](#). Founded in 2011, The Herren Project is a 501(c)3 non-profit foundation established by former NBA basketball player, Chris Herren, that assists individuals and families struggling with addiction.

## Faith Without Works

*By Chaplain Doug Spearman, LCYDC*

Several weeks ago, Band Leader Rob Seccarecia and Health/Physical Education Instructor at Mountain View Youth Correctional Center (MVYDC), packed his vehicle, five band mates from *Faith Without Works*, and a U-Haul trailer filled with equipment to head south. It was raining when they left Bangor, but soon that changed to snow and whiteout conditions from Waterville past Augusta. When they arrived at Long Creek at 7:40 a.m., it was still snowing.

They off loaded six dollies of equipment, and for the next hour they were busy setting up sound systems, keyboards, and a saxophone. These men have been playing together for a while and sound great. It's loud, it's lively, and it's rock and roll music with words about Jesus. These guys didn't invent rock and roll, but like me, they had a front row seat and they do it well...very well.

Rob spoke from his heart between songs. He shared about coming from a bro-

ken home and doing drugs with a brother that he lost to an overdose. Rob understood the issues concerning our kids and he also knows that God can change their lives from the inside out and for good.

*Faith Without Works* sang and shared for 50 minutes and after talking with several kids they were busy packing it all up again to head north in the snow (that was still coming down). The following day is a Sunday and the men will be playing in their

church worship band for multiple services.

To *Faith Without Works*—"I see your faith and your works that flow from a sincere and true heart after God's heart." Thanks for reminding us today that our God unconditionally loves the lost, the last, and the least. The band is booked to return in October, and we look forward to seeing and hearing them again.

*Faith Without Works performing for Long Creek residents.*



# Long Creek Youth Development Center Staff Updates

## Welcome Aboard

Rocco Abbatemarco comes to us from a Title One school in New York City. Over the past ten years he has been actively involved in helping educate special needs and general population students using the Collaborative Team Teaching approach. He is well versed in differentiating instruction to accommodate multiple learning styles' as well as motivation of reluctant learners.

Nichole Chaison is our new Academic Advisor. She will be teaching a class in Oral Communication (speech writing and presentation) course to post graduate students at A.R. Gould School; as well as helping clients gain the knowledge and skills they will need to help find employment. She has served as an Adjunct Professor at Southern Maine Community College, University of New England and Colby College.

Nicholas Bissell come on board as a new Juvenile Program Worker assigned to the Food Service Department

as a Cook. Nick is a five year veteran of the U.S. Army; and served as a Nutrition Care Specialist preparing, cooking and serving meals at Bethesda.

Congratulations to Heather Sprague on her promotion to the position of Juvenile Facility Operations Supervisor. Heather has studied criminal justice and psychology at Curry College in Massachusetts; as well as worked as a Corrections Officer and Deputy Sheriff with the Suffolk County Sheriff's Office in Massachusetts. She has been both a Juvenile Program Worker and Juvenile Program Specialist at Long Creek.

## Thank You for Your Service

Ben McPherson is leaving his position as a Juvenile Program Worker after five years. Ben is leaving us for "the other coast, California." We wish him well in his new journey!

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## Region 2 • Juvenile Community Services

Juvenile Community Corrections Officers (JCCO) Jay Pennell and Steve Labonte from Region 2 are currently conducting a group (T4) at Tree Street in Lewiston, Maine. Both JCCO's have been trained in the use of Trauma Affect Regulation: Guide for Education and Therapy (TARGET). With ongoing supervision from President Judith Ford of Advanced Trauma Solutions, both JCCO's are providing education to local youth with fidelity.

TARGET is an educational and therapeutic approach for the prevention and treatment of post-traumatic stress disorders (PTSD). TARGET provides a seven-step sequence of skills—the FREEDOM Steps—that are designed to enable youth and adults to understand and gain control of trauma-related reactions triggered by current daily life stresses. The goal in TARGET is to help youth and adults recognize their personal strengths using the FREEDOM Steps and to use these skills consistently and purposefully when they experience stress reactions in their lives.

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## Region 3 • Juvenile Community Services

*By John Bennoch, JCCO*

On February 14th, RCA Dave Barrett went to Southern Penobscot Regional Program and spoke to the Special Education Directors of Penobscot County. He presented information on Juvenile Community Corrections

including issues around confidentiality, notification to schools regarding public safety issues, collaborative case planning, and services available through Department of Corrections.

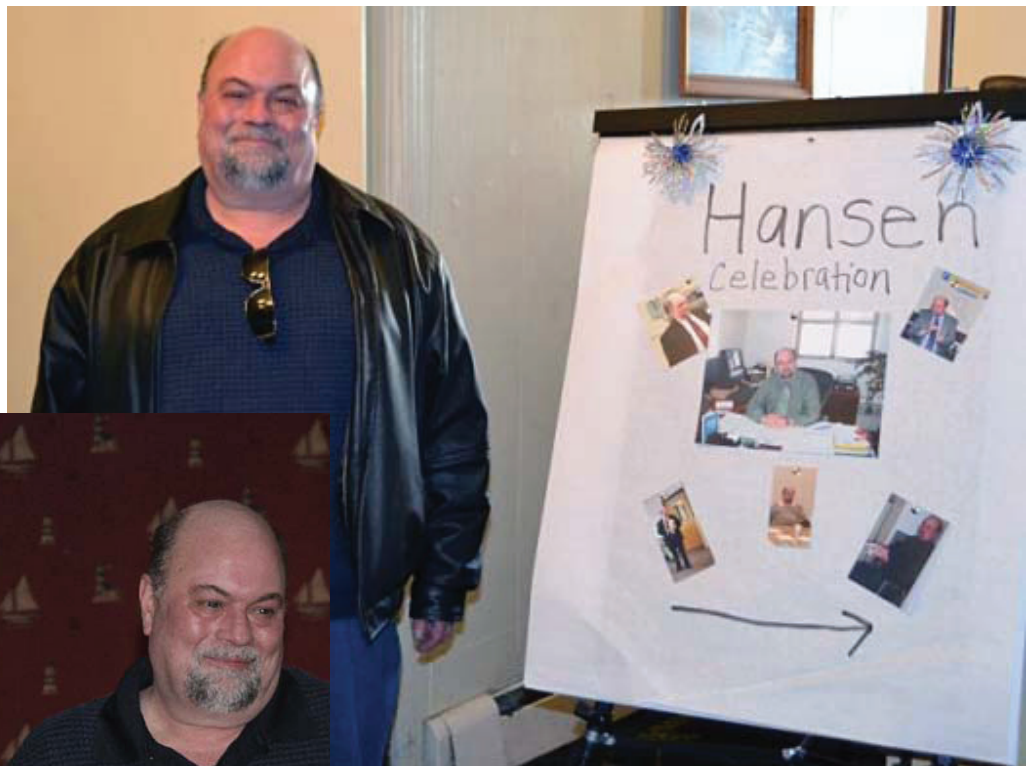


## Surprise! A Retirement Party for Eric Hansen

The first Saturday in January came as quite a surprise to Eric Hansen, retired Superintendent for Mountain View Youth Development Center. He was invited to lunch by his daughter, Erica King, to Captain Nick's Restaurant in Bangor. What Eric didn't know was that others would be joining them! Eighty people turned out for Eric's surprise retirement party and everyone had a great time.



*A surprised Eric Hansen, with his son Josh, and daughter Erica King.*



*Guest of honor, Erin Hansen.*



*Larry Austin and Eric.*



## Surprise continued



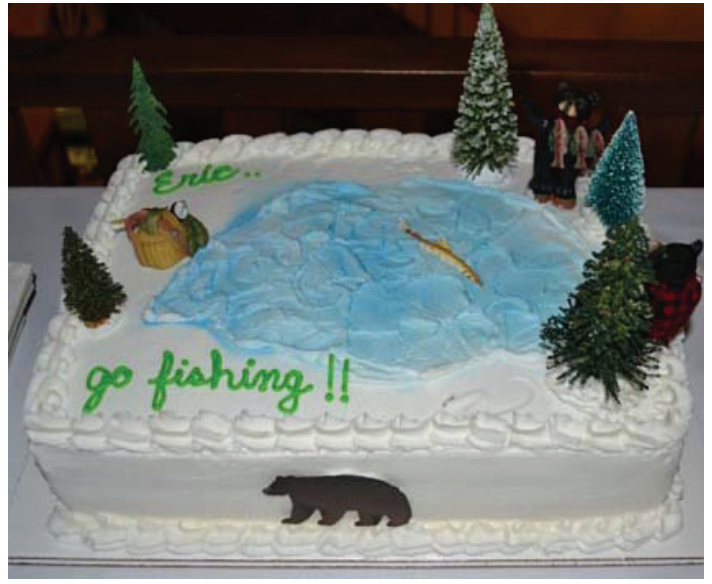
*Lars Olsen, Larry Austin, MaryAnn Saar, Jeff Merrill, Eric, Jeff Morin and Scott Burnheimer.*



*MaryAnn Saar, Marty Magnusson, Lars Olsen and his wife Chris.*



*Jeff Merrill and Eric with "the Bird."*



*Cake with a retirement suggestion.*



*Quite the crowd!*



*Barry Stoodley.*



# New Techniques Shrink Maine's Incarcerated Youth Population 35 Percent Since 1997

By Alex Barber, Bangor Daily News

Mountain View Youth Development Center in Charleston is one of two youth correctional facilities in Maine. Buy PhotoAUGUSTA, Maine — Youth confined in correctional facilities across the United States recently hit a 35-year low, and Maine is part of the trend, according to a new study.

The Annie E. Casey Foundation released a study this week that found youth confinement declined by 37 percent in the country from 1997 to 2010. Maine saw a 35 percent decrease in that same time span. The foundation is a private charity dedicated to helping disadvantaged children.

There was an all-time high of 381 children incarcerated per 100,000 nationally in 1995. In 2010, the number was down to a 35-year low of 225 per 100,000, the study found.

Barry Stoodley, former associate commissioner for the Division of Juvenile Services for the Maine Department of Corrections, said it has taken a change in approach to accomplish the shift in the state.

"If one were to drop into how the work was done 15

years ago, it would be almost unrecognizable to what we do today," Stoodley said on Thursday.

Nationally, the United States had 105,055 juveniles in confinement in 1997, or 356 per 100,000 youths. By 2010, that number had dropped to 70,792, or 225 per 100,000.

Maine saw a similar decrease. In 1997, the state had 318 juveniles in confinement, or 219 per 100,000. In 2010, that number was down to 186, or 142 per 100,000 children — the ninth lowest rate in the nation. On Thursday, there were 144 youth in two Maine correctional facilities — Long Creek Youth Development Center in South Portland and Mountain View Youth Development Center in Charleston. That number was a decrease of 26 juveniles from 2012, said Stoodley.

In all, 44 states plus the District of Columbia saw double-digit decreases in the percentage of children incarcerated. Connecticut dropped 65 percent from 1997 to 2010 and Tennessee dropped 66 percent.

The percentages for Arkansas, Idaho, Nebraska, Pennsylvania, South Dakota

and West Virginia all rose. Idaho's incarcerated youth increased by 80 percent and West Virginia rose by 60 percent.

About 15 years ago, Maine's correctional system had pressure from the media, Gov. Angus King and the Legislature to make changes in how it handled juvenile rehabilitation, said Stoodley.

Planning for the changes began in the late 1990s, but got traction in 2000, he said.

Joseph Lehman was brought on as corrections commissioner and two youth development centers were opened in 2002.

"We looked at what programs were available and what methodologies were available, and one by one, we started to bring those programs into our facilities," said Stoodley.

No longer was there group therapy and failing schools, he said. Now there would be individual-focused methods specified to the needs of the youths.

Stoodley said reducing recidivism, or children committing offenses after being incarcerated, was the biggest key in lowering the number.

Youth arrested for juvenile crimes decreased by 26 percent from 2001 to 2010, said Stoodley, although the rate of arrest for violent offenses increased by 28 percent.

"If we can focus the resources we have on the dynamic risk domains of the individual kids that are under supervision or incarcerated, there's a high likelihood we can impact the result and lower the likelihood of recidivism," said Stoodley. "It's not a feel-good approach, it's a planned approach. We have very intensive training for our staff."

Today, 5 percent of Maine's youth imprisoned population is made up of children age 14 or younger; 13 percent are 15 years old, 25 percent are 16, 38 percent are 17 and 19 percent are 18 or older. Juveniles can be kept in youth detention centers until they reach age 21.

"Primarily what we've done in the past 10 or 12 years is we've implemented a variety of best practices," said Stoodley. "We've researched what is effective with children, what's cost effective and what reduces recidivism rates."

"We want to make sure that

*Continued next page*

## Incarcerated Youth continued

when they come out, that they're not inflicting more harm on victims," he said.

Stoodley said that 200 different standards are used to make sure juveniles are being rehabilitated and don't commit more crimes.

"We're pulling data out of the facilities about the operations and programs," he said. "Are kids improving on math tests? Are staff or kids being hurt? Are staff or kids in fear? We graph these

standards every six months. If there are areas we find are lacking, we'll develop improvement plans."

The department can see the programs are working because kids aren't coming back to the facilities as often, he said. In 1999, about 75 percent of juveniles returned to the correctional centers based on new offenses. The rate dropped to just 30 percent a few years ago, said Stoodley.

"This year, it looks like that might be as low as 10 percent," he said.

Keeping juveniles from returning to correctional facilities "is the core of our work," Stoodley said. "When we get the kids placed under our supervision, the goal is to make sure they don't come back."

The change didn't happen overnight, he said.

"The bottom line is it's commitment and focus that

makes a difference over time," said Stoodley.

*The following article appeared in the Bangor Daily News on March 1, 2013 and can be found at this link: <http://bangordailynews.com/2013/03/01/news/state/new-techniques-shrink-maines-incarcerated-youth-population-35-percent-since-1997/?ref=search>*

## Animal Tales: Puppy Love Changes Inmate's Outlook

By Lindsay Tice, Sun Journal

WINDHAM — When she looked back on her life, 22-year-old Britni Walters saw mistakes: Joining a gang. Doing drugs. Robbing a Lewiston gas station.

But when she looked at Merry, a 16-week-old Belgian malinois puppy, Walters saw possibilities: Raising Merry to be a police dog. Getting out of prison. Going to school, joining the military and becoming a K9 handler herself.

For the first time, Walters found direction.

"She's taught me so much. She's taught me patience ... obedience. I'm training them at the same time I'm learning," she said.

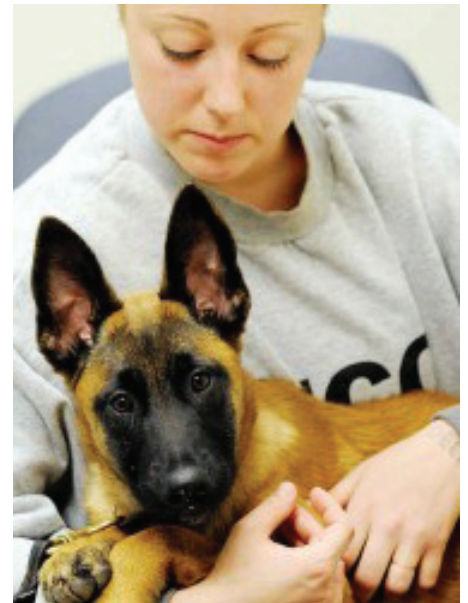
From December to early March, Walters, an inmate at the Maine Correctional Center in Windham, raised and trained puppies as part of a pilot program coordinated by Maine State Police

*Britni Walters (left) holds 16-week-old Merry at the Maine Correctional Center in Windham. "She just brings a smile to my face," Walters said. Photo by Amber Waterman | Sun Journal.*

and the Department of Corrections. The goal: save money by having inmates do the early basic training for potential police dogs and help inmates by giving them the responsibility and unconditional love that comes with puppy raising.

"I guess I'm just like them, you know?" Walters said of the puppies. "They're so crazy, they're so wild, but they're so controlled once they're trained to do what they're supposed to. Once they know what they have to do, they do it. And now that I know that I can do what I'm doing, it's so natural to me. Just like them."

Walters was born in Lewiston and raised in Florida, where she lived with family



while her biological father was in prison in Maine.

*This article continues at: <http://bangordailynews.com/2013/03/11/news/portland/animal-tales-puppy-love-changes-inmates-outlook/>*



# Long Creek Youth Designs and Illustrates Poster

*D, a 17-year-old artist and resident at Long Creek Youth Development Center, was invited to design a poster and a Save the Date card for the 2013 Positive Youth Development Institute to be held at Husson University in July.*

*D received support in this work from the dedicated Jim Boisvert, Deb Barrows and Jon Renell, all Long Creek staff members, and Kathryn McGloin, staff to the Juvenile Justice Advisory Group.*

*She will attend the Institute to autograph the posters. Half of the proceeds from the sale of the posters will be given to a charity of her choice.*

*Mr. Renell's graphic arts class at Long Creek will print the posters and the cards. Proceeds of this work will go into the program.*

*Watch for her work on the cover of the JJAG's Annual Report to the Governor.*

*Please enjoy D's beautiful and meaningful art; poetry, prose and drawing. She is one of our very special children in Maine's youth development centers.*

My name is D. I'm seventeen years old. I'm currently a resident at the Long Creek Youth Development Center. I've been here for almost two years now. My discharge date will be my 18th Birthday.

I was invited to create the artwork for the 2013 Positive Youth Development Institute. When I was asked at first, I didn't know what to say because being able to design something that many people would be able to see can be nerve-racking and a little bit overwhelming. I was more than willing to do the project but when I sat down with a blank piece of paper and my pencil I didn't know what to draw... I was stuck. It took me a while but then I started thinking about

my past experiences and the hurdles I've jumped to make a change in my life.

The words on my art come from a past of not having positive definition of the words I chose. The words have imprinted on me and now show me morality in my life. Being a resident at Long Creek has changed me immensely it was a huge wakeup call to me and I have no regrets of it because it makes me who I am today. The staffs and counselors of Long Creek provided me a lot of tools I can use to be productive for the betterment of myself and future.

I drew the dove to represent freedom within because in

*Continued next page*



*Poster and Save the Date card for the 2013 Positive Youth Development Institute illustrated and designed by D, a 17-year-old artist and resident at Long Creek Youth Development Center.*



## Poster continued

my past I've always felt like a prisoner in my own body I didn't have any respect for myself and I used to bottle things inside a lot. I learned how to open up and get honest with myself and others through poetry and art. Even though I'm at a detention center at the moment, I learned how to have freedom within and let my inside prisoner be released.

I chose to draw the rose because it represents love to me. In order to find, receive and/or give love you need to have the responsibility to take care and love yourself and also know what caring and loving another means. Roses start out as seeds, so does love, when you plant the seed it's like planting yourself with a partner. You need to give the rose sunlight and water just like you need to give a relationship happiness and trust for it to grow... It takes time for the loveliest flowers to bloom.

I also chose to draw the tree to represent growth and wisdom. Growth to represent the patience we have over time as we grow in age and wisdom to represent the knowledge we take in everyday of our lives. Like a rose a tree grows, but a tree grows like the way we grow because of how many years it takes to become fully grown and matured. A quote that I've learned from my favorite book, Tuesdays With Morrie is, "I'm every age up to my own." Because it reminds me to not be afraid of growing up and becoming mature.

Things are no longer a blur to me because I've learned to stay sober, I finally know what I want to accomplish and become. There are many things I really want to do for a career. I want to get an apprenticeship for tattooing. Knowing that my art artwork would be on someone else's body is an amazing feel-

ing. I do some tattoo designs for some of the correction officers and other residents in Long Creek. One that I'm most proud about is designing a tattoo for a staff whose father past away because it took her about a year to come up with ideas and when she asked me to draw her a tattoo design I finished it the next day and gave it to her and she loved it, it made me feel really good to have been able to help her and it felt rewarding knowing that I did something positive for someone and that my work would stick with her forever. I also would love to work with young kids as an art therapist because I think art is very therapeutic and strongly speaks out when things are hard to let out verbally.

One of my big strength's that feels rewarding to me is having the desire to help others with the best of my ability to see a positive outcome. It is very important to me because it makes me feel fulfilled. My strength has helped me in a lot of situations. I had a lot of problems, with losing important people in my life because of my negative actions in the past but when I started using my strength for myself, it helped me to get the people I lost, back into my life... I learned not only how to help other but, myself as well. It helps me to gain and maintain confidence in myself. It also helps me to interact with others positively.

I'm glad and extremely grateful to be able to share the meaning behind my artwork. I just want to say thank you for giving me this opportunity of letting me help in some sort of way. It is an honor.

Sincerely,  
D

### RESILIENT SOUL

By D

This drug is controlling me  
It won't let me be  
It's like I 'm incarcerated  
I just want to be free.

I use my brain minimally  
I do drugs and think more  
criminally  
It's like I'm not in my own body  
My actions weren't intentionally.

The path I chose was wrong  
My family and I doesn't event get  
along  
It's like I'm abandoned  
I just want to be belong.

I ended up in jail  
With no chance of bail  
It's like they threw away the keys  
I didn't want to fail.

I need to change  
I know it's going to feel strange.  
It's like finding a new path  
It's time to rearrange.

I got the help that I need  
Now I know I can succeed.  
I'm out of the maze  
Now I have better days  
Drugs I no longer crave.

I'm glad I got to get help  
and to see things in a different  
light  
Now I know my future is going to  
be bright.



**Back for our 25th year! Never Too Early To Plan!**

# **THE GREAT ESCAPE**

## **Law Enforcement and Corrections Golf Tournament**

**Monday, May 20th • 8:00 Shotgun Start  
Point Sebago Golf Club in Casco, Maine**

Planned cost \$55 (Greens fees, cart, luncheon buffet).

There is a 28 team limit.

Closest to pin on all par 3s, long drive, Cash paid for each. We do 1st and 2nd place. (No repeat winners).

Long Drive, Men's Junior, Senior and Ladies combined, 1 place each.

1st and 2nd Place Low Net and Low Gross and then as far as we can for low net. Last year we paid out to 8 Teams in Low Gross.

All Mulligan money goes back into team prizes!  
Raffle tickets pay out 50% to 1st draw, 35% to the

second draw, and 15% to tourney prizes. Last year's 1st draw winner walked away with over \$150.

And whatever else we can come up with in door prizes and giveaways. Last years value of door prizes was over \$4,000.

Send player names, handicaps and registration fee to: Brad Fogg, MCC, 17 Mallison Falls Road, Windham ME 04062.

E-mail: [bradley.fogg@maine.gov](mailto:bradley.fogg@maine.gov) or [june.jacobson@maine.gov](mailto:june.jacobson@maine.gov)

**Pre-registration is required – you may pay CASH  
ON DAY OF TOURNAMENT – no checks!**

# **QUESTIONS?**

**Brad Fogg: 893-7050 or 822-2604  
June Jacobson: 893-7046**

# Maine Hate Crimes Forum: Addressing State and Federal Hate Crimes Enforcement Issues

## Save the Date & Register Now!

**Featuring** the Matthew Shepard and James Byrd, Jr. Hate Crimes Prevention Act of 2009

“A conference for law enforcement, educators, and responders”

**Thursday, May 16, 2013**

**8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

**University of Maine at Augusta**

**Jewett Hall Auditorium**

(46 University Drive, Augusta)

### Special Guest Keynote Speakers:

Judy & Dennis Shepard, co-founders of the Matthew Shepard Foundation and authors of *The Meaning of Matthew*

Refreshments & lunch provided by the Maine Holocaust and Human Rights Center

**Contact:** Elizabeth.Helitzer@maine.edu or call 621-3532

**Seating is Limited, Please Reserve Now!**

## Employees' Services Anniversaries

### Facility Key:

*CC-Community Corrections*

*CO-Central Office*

*CCF-Charleston Correctional Facility*

*CMPRC-Central Maine Pre-Release*

*Center*

*DCF-Downeast Correctional Facility*

*LCYDC-Long Creek Youth Development Center*

*MCC-Maine Correctional Center*

*MSP-Maine State Prison*

*MVYDC-Mountain View Youth*

*Development Center*

*SMRC-Southern Maine Re-Entry Center for Women*

### 5 Years

Scott A Morey Jr.....MSP

Dean T Rathier .....MCC

### 10 Years

Archie P Curry III.....MVYDC

Deborah M Hill .....MSP

David E McComish .....MCC

Travis M McEwen .....MCC

Thomas H Scanlon.....MCC

Beverly G Sherwin .....MSP

### 20 Years

Patrick J Dupuie.....MSP

Antonio Mendez .....BCF

Matthew E Robbins .....MCC

### 25 Years

Leo J Bissonnette.....MSP

Kenneth E Fearon .....MCC

Arthur R McCurdy .....DCF

Craig S Riley .....MSP

Randall N Thomas .....BCF

### More than 25 Years

Lawrence D Austin (1986) .....MVYDC

David M Barrett (1987) .....CO/CC

Carol E Carlow (1987).....CO/CC

Kevin E Chute (1974).....CO/CC

Smith S Climo (1983).....LCYDC

Ronald I Creamer (1986) .....MSP

Brian W Day (1986) .....DCF

Susan Deschambault (1972) .....MCC

Jeffrey J Doiron (1986).....LCYDC

Susan Dumond (1980).....BCF

Susan R Finch (1987).....LCYDC

Neil D Graves (1986) .....MSP

Stephen A Hasson (1985).....CO/CC

Mark R James (1987) .....MCC

Scott A Norris (1985).....MSP

Richard A Robinson (1977) .....MCC

Ronald Sagner (1975) .....CO/CC

Joanna G Sylvester (1985) .....MSP

Russell L Worcester Jr. (1984) .....MSP





*Waves of Change ~ Oceans of Possibility*

## **2013 Adult and Juvenile Female Offenders 15th National Bi-Annual Conference**

**October 6-10, 2013  
Holiday Inn by the Bay  
Portland, Maine**

**Hosted by the  
Maine Department of Corrections  
Sponsored by the  
Association on Programs for Female Offenders**

The first AJFO conference was hosted in 1985 by the Minnesota Department of Corrections. Until then, no mechanism existed for training and networking for corrections professionals who worked specifically with female offenders. Because of gender and cultural needs of women and girls, many working in the field strongly believed that there needed to be an international and ongoing discourse regarding female offenders. A grassroots movement began to provide a forum for corrections professionals to come together every other year and share information and concerns regarding the needs, management and treatment of female offenders.

**For conference registration, sponsorship, and  
presenter information: <http://ajfo.org/>**